

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 04849 151034Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SP-02
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-01 /127 W
-----071057 160413Z /13

R 150827Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4117
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ENRG, GH
SUBJ: FUEL SHORTAGE AGAIN

REF: 77 ACCRA 1203

1. ACCRA DAILY JUNE 14 GIVES FRONT PAGE COVERAGE TO ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THERE WILL BE A 25 PERCENT REDUCTION IN DELIVERIES FROM GHANA'S ONLY PETROLEUM REFINERY IN TEMA. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THE CUT-BACK IN DELIVERIES OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IS THE RESULT OF PROBLEMS IN THE REGULAR DELIVERY OF CRUDE TO THE REFINERY.

2. PETROLEUM INDUSTRY SOURCES INDICATE THAT INDEED THE REFINERY IS NOW CLOSED BECAUSE OF LACK OF CRUDE OIL AND PRESENT STOCKS OF REFINED PRODUCTS CAN LAST ONLY ABOUT TEN DAYS AT THE REDUCED RATE OF DELIVERY, 25 PERCENT BELOW NORMAL. INDUSTRY SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE PROBLEM IS REPORTEDLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DUE TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE CHARTERED TANKER REGULARLY USED TO HAUL CRUDE OIL FROM NIGERIA TO TEMA. ANOTHER TANKER IS BELIEVED TO LOADING CRUDE IN ALGERIA, BUT WILL TAKE 12-14 DAYS TO ARRIVE IN TEMA. ON JUNE 13 REPRESENTATIVES OF PRIVATE OIL FIRMS MET WITH GOG OFFICIALS IN THE MINISTRY FOR FUEL AND POWER AND OFFERED ASSISTANCE. COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES SUGGESTED THE IMPORT OF REFINED PRODUCTS

UNTIL THE STOCK OF CRUDE OIL CAN BE REPLENISHED, BUT THERE
HAS BEEN NO REPLY FROM GOG AS YET. EVEN IF THE GOG ACTS
IMMEDIATELY, THE FUEL SHORTALL CERTAINLY GET WORSE
BEFORE IT IMPROVES. EMBASSY INSTITUTING IMMEDIATE RATIONING SYSTEM
OF FUEL STOCKS ON HAND.

3. FOR INFO POSTS: PLEASE ADVISE ALL THOSE PLANNING TO DRIVE
TO GHANA IN NEAR FUTURE TO HAVE TANKS FULL ON ARRIVAL AND
NOT TO COUNT ON BUYING FUEL IN GHANA.
HOLMES

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NNNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: ENRG, GH
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